*<<TITLE>>*

**Anesthesiology**

*<<INTRO – NO MORE THAN TWO SENTENCES>>*

Anesthesiology is a medical specialty dedicated to providing safe and effective anesthesia care to relieve pain and ensure the comfort of patients before, during, and after surgery. Trinity’s anesthesia care team consists of physician anesthesiologists and certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs).

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**Services** <<brief lead-in copy>>

The Department of Anesthesia at Trinity Health is a highly integrated, collaborative group of anesthesia providers, dedicated to ensuring expertise in the anesthetic management of patients of all ages. The team provides the following services.

* **General Anesthesia** – Suppressesthe central nervous system to the extent that a patient is unconscious without any perception of pain or other sensation.
* **Regional Anesthesia** – Suppresses pain in an isolated body part, such as a limb, by blocking the transmission of nerve signals from the surgical site to the central nervous system. The patient may be sedated to promote comfort and reduce anxiety.
* **Local Anesthesia** – Introduces an anesthetic or numbing agent to a small part of the body.

* **Sedation** – Involves administration of calming medicines to promote comfort and reduce anxiety, usually to enable a surgical or medical procedure.
* **Pre-operative Consultation and Anesthesia Planning** – Provides individualized anesthesia care based on a patient’s medical history and preferences.

* **Management of Post-Operative Pain** – Involves administration of medications to reduce pain and facilitate rehabilitative therapies.

*<<Child Pages FOR anesthesia>>*

**What is an Anesthesiologist?**

Physician anesthesiologists are highly trained medical experts who evaluate, monitor and supervise patient care before, during and after surgery. Even though anesthesia is safer than ever, the administration of anesthesia is a complex and technically demanding medical procedure. Anesthesiologists have years of medical education and clinical training to make critical decisions should an emergency arise or if a routine procedure becomes complicated, making every second count. They are responsible for evaluating your medical condition, recommending an appropriate anesthesia plan, diagnosing and treating problems that might surface during a procedure, and making critical, split-second decisions that can save your life.

**What is a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA)?**

A CRNA is an advanced practice nurse, much like Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, or Certified Nurse Midwives. They have an advanced degree, such as a Master of Science, after which they undergo rigorous testing and credentialing by the National Board of Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists. CRNAs may work independently or in collaboration with the physician anesthesiologists, surgeons, dentists, podiatrists, and other qualified healthcare professionals to provide anesthesia care in all types of settings and for all types of surgeries and procedures.